GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:641
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
PLUNDERING OF MONUMENTS
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ancient monuments of great historical value are being systematically plundered;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of all such cases which occurred during the last three years; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to protect these monuments and to remove encroachment therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) No, Sir. The centrally protected monuments are well maintained and are secure.

(b)&(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Some encroachments have been reported in the prohibited and protected area of the monuments under the care of the Archaeological Survey of India.The assistance of the State Government and the local authorities is sought immediately to help in the removal of the encroachments and appropriate legal action is taken thereafter.